



Lunenburg Public Schools

Loxi Jo Calmes
Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, February 26, 2014
Thomas C. Passios Building Room #13 - 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

School Committee

Gregory Berthiaume
Michael Mackin
Colleen Shapiro
Brendan Grady-Absent
Todd Blake

Superintendent

Loxi Jo Calmes

Recording Secretary

Student Representative

Abbie Clark-Absent

Guests

Tammy Yourk
John Londa

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- * Call to Order – Dr. Berthiaume called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
 - * Chair's Report – Dr. Berthiaume informed everyone that the meeting was being recorded and will be made available to the public.
 - * Review and Approve Minutes-
 - January 8, 2014 Regular Session Minutes
 - January 22, 2014 Regular Session MinutesAll of the minutes were approved by Dr. Berthiaume.
 - * Review and Approve Warrants – Warrants were on the table for signatures. There was one line item transfer from Mr. Hill in the LHS Science Department to move money from the supply line to the text book line in order to provide additional textbooks for students. Total was \$502.00.
 - * Superintendent's Report
 - Superintendent Calmes welcomed everyone back from February vacation. Competitive Class Plays at LHS was a great opportunity for the community to come together to watch great talent on stage. There will be upcoming You Tube video on Cable Access.
 - LHS Chorus performance with the Handel & Haydn Society at Symphony Hall. Congratulations to LHS Chorus and Ms. Wardwell for being selected based on level of performance at the MICCA competition.
 - Report from Mr. McCauliff that winter athletics have been very busy. Brook Hansel has won district and state competitions. Hockey has gone to district and regionals, and has a shot at state. Congratulations to all athletes.
 - Superintendent, Principals, and technology director participated in day-long webinar for the upcoming PARCC Assessments. Part of assessment is done online, procedures and practice templates have been created for teachers to practice with students. Informational sessions from the state will be posted on the website for parents, and additional information can be found on DESE website section on PARCC. Ms. Shapiro provided the suggestion to have a follow up presentation after the assessment to the school committee.
 - * Student Representative - Abbie Clark absent.
 - * School Building Committee Report – Mr. Mackin relayed that they met on the 12th. Designer/project manager met with faculty of LHS adding a level of depth to the project design. Working group will meet on Tuesday. Topics focusing on infrastructure, design labs, details of projectors, electricity and number of

boilers. March 5th will be next working group meeting for landscape and regulatory. Further meeting will be on March 12th.

* Public Comment –

* Old Business

- a. Student Travel- Superintendent Calmes received final itinerary for LHS Music NYC trip and all documentation about the safety and insurance of the transportation company. Trip will depart Lunenburg on Friday to NYC and return Sunday. Some highlights include a Broadway educational performance opportunity and a Carnegie and Radio City Music Hall Tour. Mr. Spadafino will be traveling with the group. Superintendent Calmes recommended final approval. Mr. Mackin made motion for approval, Mr. Blake seconded motion. Vote: Unanimous
- b. FY 15 Budget Update- Superintendent Calmes reported that the Town Manager will be presenting the Town Budget and recommending a 3.5 % increase. There was a remarkable savings through the renewal of insurance. The Superintendent reported that concerning Special Services, they were at \$100,000 more than what the budget initially started at. She will need time to revise next years projections as new placements are paid for within the budget before they are reimbursed through Circuit Breaker. For example, a \$200,000 placement reimbursement would not be actualized until 2016. Retirements will impact budget as well.

* New Business

- a. LHS Italy and Greece Trip- Ms. Yourk seeking initial approval for April 16-24, 2015 Italy and Greece Trip through Explorica, a company that has been used several times in the past. Total for each student is \$3563.00 good until March 1st, but will extend price through March if at least one person signs up. For every 6 students there will be one chaperone. Superintendent Calmes recommended initial approval. Mr. Mackin made a motion to approve, Ms. Shapiro seconded. Vote: Unanimous
- b. State Latin Convention April 11-13, 2014, Ms. Yourk seeking approval. Takes place at Barnstable H.S., Cost for students is \$175 for hotel and meals. Bus is additional, do not have figure yet as this is based on the number of students attending. Question as to how many students normally attend, the answer was 20-50 on average. Eighth grade students are included. Superintendent recommended final approval. Dr. Berthiaume made a motion to approve, Mr. Mackin seconded. Vote: Unanimous
- c. Review of Property- Mr. John Londa created list of surplus items at TCP from consolidation. Recommended that these be consolidated to other schools, made available to other town departments, or recycled. Items included bookcases, upholstered chairs, student desks, etc. Proposed the use of the IRN Company for recycling, who ships items to underdeveloped countries to other students who need these items. Superintendent Calmes recommended approval. Dr. Berthiaume made motion for approval, Mr. Mackin seconded. Vote: Unanimous
- d. FY 15 Calendar- Calendar committee met to finalize calendar. Highlights of calendar were August 25th date of return for staff, second professional development day on August 26th. Students return on August 27th with 2 days in session before Labor Day weekend. Kindergarten will have ½ class one day, ½ class the next for a smaller group experience. Open House dates at Primary staggered in September to allow for parking capacity. Proposal of 2 week break in December with last day being the 19th and return on January 5th. This provides for traditional break in February and 180th day on June 15th. Received feedback from 1 member of the community. Discussion of committee with split opinions regarding length of breaks, state recommendations for a March break, how other communities/districts handle the calendar, and returning to school after Labor Day. Mr. Mackin made motion for approval of calendar. Mr. Blake made motion to table discussion to receive more information. Ms. Shapiro seconded. Vote: Dr. Berthiaume- no, Mr. Mackin- no, **Ms. Shapiro-**, Mr. Blake-yes. Motion did not pass. Mr. Mackin moved to approve calendar as stated, Ms. Shapiro seconded. Vote: Dr. Berthiaume-yes, Mr. Mackin-yes, Ms. Shapiro-yes, Mr. Blake-no. Motion passed.
- e. Van Pool Transportation- Final document was approved, but Superintendent Calmes recommended that the school committee authorized Dr. Berthiaume to sign. Mr. Mackin moved to authorize Dr. Berthiaume to sign. Vote: Unanimous
- f. FLLAC Agreement Approval- Members of FLLAC board working to align the contract with regulations related to all collaboratives. No substantial changes from previous contract. Superintendent Calmes recommended authorization for Dr. Berthiaume to sign. Mr. Mackin moved to authorize Dr. Berthiaume to sign. Vote: Unanimous. Superintendent Calmes relayed that we have received FLLAC's financial statements and quarterly and annual reports. These have been made available at the FLLAC website and in the superintendents' office for review by the public.

- g. Donations- Thank you to PTO for \$8000 to each school for technology. THMS and Primary School will be receiving an iPad cart, and LHS will receive a netbook cart. The Superintendent commended the IT Department for servicing and keeping technology operational. Thank you to Johnny Appleseed Harmonizers for their \$500 donation which is recommended by Ms. Wardwell to be used to purchase new chorus attire. Superintendent recommended acceptance of all donations. Mr. Mackin moved to accept, Ms. Shapiro seconded. Vote: Unanimous
- h. THMS School Council Membership- Mr. Mackin relayed the sadness of the vacancy following the loss of Bob Meek- LaVeck. The school council went to the guidelines to see what the process is for filling a vacancy. Mr. Santry recommending a member of the PTO fill this vacancy for the remainder of this school year. Superintendent recommended approval of Mr. Santry's suggestion. Dr. Berthiaume moved to accept recommendation, Mr. Mackin seconded. Vote: Unanimous
- i. Building Reuse Committee- Mr. Blake relayed that the work of this committee is twofold: to explore real estate development possibilities of properties identified as surplus, and cross organizational work on records management, office relocation and renovation. Mr. Blake relayed that he would like step down from his post on this committee. Discussion as to whether the school committee needed a participant on this committee. Decided that due to close proximity of these properties to our campus/ TCP, a member should be present. Mr. Mackin offered to step forward. Motion to approve Mr. Mackin by Mr. Blake. Ms. Shapiro seconded. Vote: Unanimous
- * Public Comment – Mr. Mackin commented about the upcoming Boys & Girls Club Fundraising Event “Are You Smarter Than a 6th Grader” on March 7th at THMS. Teams of teachers and Town Hall employees will be present. Acknowledged the loss of bob Meek-LaVeck as a wonderful supporter of the school community through PTO, his children's schools, and the new building project.
- * Reports
 - a. Finance Committee – Dr. Berthiaume stated that they are meeting tomorrow with presentation of budget from Town Manager.
 - b. School Councils – Mr. Mackin reported that LHS met today but he was unable to attend. Mr. Blake said same for THMS. Ms. Shapiro attended Primary meeting where they discussed PTO donations, and devising new goals for the School Improvement Plan to make sure they are in line with the Superintendents goals.
 - c. PTO – Ms. Shapiro reported there is a new “Night Out” fundraiser on March 22nd at the Harley House. Limited to 100 tickets for \$25 each for a lasagna buffet. Tickets available on the PTO website. The Lunenburg Apparel sale has gone well and they are projecting a few thousand dollars in profit.
 - d. Policy Sub-Committee- Mr. Blake reported they had met and focused on section 3000, fiscal management and school health programs per C. Fords recommendations.
 - e. Capital Planning Committee – Done with remaining work for now except for presenting budget.
 - f. Wellness Advisory Committee- have not met.
 - g. PAC/SAL – Ms. Shapiro reported that the meeting was canceled due to weather conditions.
 - h. Advisory Committee for Acceptance and Diversity- Dr. Berthiaume stated that upcoming meeting would not have a quorum due to the Finance Committee Meeting. Will defer to Ms. Stephens to decide to reschedule or not. Met on 2/6/14, focused on budget recommendations.
- * Items for Future Discussion- The committee discussed scheduling workshops at the next meeting.
- * Executive Session- Executive Session - M.G.L. Chapter 39, Section 23B [3] To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government's bargaining or litigating position.
- * Adjournment – Motion made by Dr. Berthiaume to move to Executive session and adjourn regular session. Mr. Mackin seconded. Vote: Unanimous. Adjourned at 8:23pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Liz Petersen